

GREAT GRANSDEN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 7th January 2019

Those present were:

Andrew Pett Chairman

Giles Scott Vice Chairman

Diane Taylor Clerk

James Catmur Parish Councillor

Jeff Gorton Parish Councillor

Nigel Day Parish Councillor

Nick Ginn Parish Councillor

Peter King Parish Councillor

District Councillor Richard West and 4 members of the public

1. The meeting was opened at 7.30 pm with a silent prayer
2. **Apologies.** There were apologies for absence from Parish Councillor Michael Capps and County Councillor Julie Wisson.
3. **Declarations of Interest.** There were no declarations of interest.
4. **Minutes** of the previous monthly meeting held on 3rd December 2018, which had been circulated, were approved and accordingly signed by the chairman.

5. OPEN FORUM. The meeting was closed for nine minutes. District Councillor Richard West spoke about a problem with recent bin collections in Meadow Road which has now been resolved following his intervention. The new budget is dominant with a limited council tax rise; through government cuts, £600K will be lost. He also spoke about a forthcoming meeting of the Digital Member Advisory Group which will be looking at how to bring about digital change to help council members and the wider community. He has also been involved in trying to progress a long-standing planning application relating to the proposed conversion of agricultural buildings to dwellings, Barns at East Street. David Prest spoke about the village consultation event on the Neighbourhood Plan which is to be held on 18th January in the School Hall, 5pm to 8pm. Bob Murden spoke on behalf of the Bowls Club, indicating that the club is happy to be involved wherever they can with the proposed re-development of the old village tennis court. Stephanie Beaumont, spoke about the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) project in which she had been involved with on the sub-committee for the past 3 years. A recommendation has previously been brought to the Parish Council, discussed and voted on and should there be any late changes to the design, this would have an effect on the funding secured to-date as well as having to go back to the planners. A full report will be provided to councillors by Peter King following the sub-committee's recent meeting and final recommendations. Andrew Pett thanked Stephanie Beaumont for all her hard work on the project.

6. Matters Arising: 6.1. Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). Andrew Pett reported that the committee had met in December and there had been other meetings to finalise the arrangements for the public consultation event on 18th January. The School's Governing Body will meet on 24th January and will discuss the NDP. The village study will be completed and all houses in the Parish have been leafleted. Sand Road and Hardwick Road businesses have also been leafleted. The successful funding application must be spent by the end of March which will fund a second questionnaire and workshop. The feedback from the first questionnaire has been analysed detailing the likes and dislikes of Great Gransden, the latter including traffic, speeding, traffic pollution and noise and unsustainable development.

6.2. Local Highway Improvement Bid 2019/20. Andrew Pett and Giles Scott had presented the bid to the panel in December. The police would not support a change in the speed limit along Meadow Road and there was no likelihood of getting a speed survey. The panel thought additional signs for Meadow Road would be a good idea but did not seem supportive of an

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Matters Arising – continued:

additional moveable vehicle activated sign (MVAS) as any sign returning to its original spot within 8-12 weeks was found to be ineffective, notwithstanding the request was for a different type of MVAS. Andrew Pett reported on his meeting with District Councillor Richard West and Police and Crime Commissioner Jason Ablewhite who is willing to lend the village one of the kits to carry out a speed survey to acquire more data.

7. Cambridgeshire Acre. Councillors unanimously agreed to renew the £57 membership fee. Proposed Andrew Pett, seconded Jeff Gorton.

8. Electric Vehicle Charging Points. Following attendance at a workshop delivered on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council, James Catmur reported on proposals for a county wide application for electric vehicle charging points with a 75% subsidy. The application and subsidy only relate to an on-road charging point for residents (who cannot charge on their own property), installed on a 24-hour public parking area. Additional criteria included installation within a 10-minute walk for local residents who have a demonstrable need and want a charger to enable a switch to electric vehicles. The life expectancy of a chargepoint is 10 years; the Parish Council would be responsible for maintenance and would have to show that the supplier can supply to it. An application cannot be made to accommodate visitors. Councillors agreed that an application could not be made as there is no evidence to support a valid need and there is no suitable location where a charging point could be installed.

9. Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA). Peter King gave his report summarising the background aims and funding for the project. The Gransden Tennis Club has strong views that the Muga should not have tennis facilities. The Muga sub-committee, having met with the Tennis Club representative, had listened carefully to their views but argue that this is a new community provision with the aim of promoting sport and physical activities with the objective always being to provide a facility for the whole community free at the point of use and not to be a threat to any other club. The sub-committee's recommendation to the Parish Council is that it wishes it to pursue the MUGA in full with no changes to the planned tennis facility. There will be on-going costs which the Parish Council will be responsible for; colour coating every 5/6 years (£1,300) and annual moss/weed killer and pressure wash (£450). The surface will have a life expectancy of 10-15 years. The annual cost for the first 10 years will be £535 plus vat. There may be unforeseen costs, but the Parish Council has already set aside £1,000 into a sinking fund. Signage costs have not been taken into account but further funding of £1,000 has been offered by the organisers of the Gransden Blues and Soul event. Signs will be needed for basic rules of use and any disclaimers. There will be a small increase in the annual premium for Public Liability insurance, more if the fencing is to be insured. A condition of the Wren funding is that the Parish Council needs to authorise someone to sign the Wren Funding Agreement on behalf of the Parish Council. Councillors agreed that the clerk is authorised to sign the Wren Funding Agreement. It is hoped the project can start in March and that this will fit in with the Bowls Club. Councillors noted that further money from the Community Infrastructure Levy would be available towards the cost of projects. Presently the village receives 15% of CIL funding from new developments although this will increase to 25% once a Neighbourhood Development Plan is approved.

10. Financial Statement for December 2018. The sheet filed as Appendix No. 1 had been circulated. The statement was unanimously approved and signed by the chairman. Councillors also noted the budget review as at the end of December 2018.

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11. Cheques for approval. The following payments were approved:

Proposed Andrew Pett, seconded Giles Scott.	
Clerk's salary for December 2018	£496.25
HM Revenue & Customs for clerk's tax Nov & Dec 2018	£5.98
Clerk's expenses for December 2018	£65.78
Robert & Margie McIntosh for Garden of Remembrance	£7.50
Information Commissioner for data protection renewal	£40.00
Cambridgeshire Acre for membership renewal	£57.00
Stephanie Beaumont for stationery (NDP)	£20.74
Barnabas Oley School for Hall Hire (NDP)	£30.00
Dodson Bros Thatchers Ltd for Reading Room Owl finial	£222.00

12. Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036. Councillors noted the modifications to the Local Plan.

13. Highways. The West Street light is still not connected. Whilst contractors had dug up the path to look for the connector, it could not be found. The clerk is in contact with Balfour Beatty who supplied the light. There appears to be some damage to the lamp post with rust showing through and this will be reported.

A428 route – the route announcement has been deferred to the Autumn possibly due to approval of the Black Cat roundabout scheme being agreed.

Speed Survey request – Cambridgeshire Traffic Management Officer responded to the request for a speed survey advising that data surveys should not be used in support of or to justify an application to the highway authority for a change in speed restriction. A request to borrow a speed kit has been made to Jason Ablewhite.

Signs around the village – this will be deferred to the March meeting.

Safety of Little Lane – the connection of the new light will be followed up. The hedge at the corner of Little Lane and West Street needs cutting. This is the empty property which is being renovated following the fire damage. Nick Ginn will speak to the builders.

14. Correspondence. 14.1. Letter from Cambridgeshire County Council seeking a financial contribution towards the cost of cycle training in schools from April 2019 which is being sought from Parish Councils if there is a funding gap. Any contribution Great Gransden Parish Council makes would only be for pupils attending Barnabas Oley School. Councillors agreed that if the school is unable to fund the cost through other means, the Parish Council may consider it.

14.2. A request had been made to scatter ashes in the cemetery although the resident had now decided to purchase a plot in the Garden of Remembrance. Councillors agreed in principle subject to a designated area being ear-marked and would consider the matter in detail should there be a request in the future.

15. Planning. 15.1. Residential Development, Land North East of Mandene Gardens. The planning authority has asked if the Parish Council wishes to be included within the S106 agreement with regard to the transfer/adoption of the green space within the site. Councillors noted that the amount of green space is not yet known but did not favour the possibility of a Trust being set up for the new community to ensure future maintenance. It was agreed that the Parish Council would wish to be consulted on the S106 agreement but until the detail/scope is known would not be in a position to agree to adopt.

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Planning – continued:

15.2. Single Dwelling, Leycourt Farm. The Development Management Committee approved the application. Councillors noted it would not have been successful if the Local Plan to 2036 had been in place.

15.3. 18/02645/FUL Erection of a single family dwelling with attendant landscaping and bin and cycle storage, Land Between 33 and 43 Meadow Road. There had been 2 letters of objection. Matters discussed included inappropriate infilling, the significance of harm from linking sporadic development and development outside the village boundary. Andrew Pett proposed ‘**Refusal**’ on the grounds (1) the proposal causes harm to the significance and setting of the Great Gransden conservation area, by linking the sporadic dwellings along Meadow Road to it and (2) the principle of this proposed development that “lies outside the village envelope” is contrary to all Huntingdonshire District Council policies past, present and future from 1995 to the Local Plan to 2036. Seconded by Giles Scott and carried with 6 votes in favour and 1 abstention.

15.4. Proposed Residential Development, land to the west of West Street. The anticipated planning application had not yet been received. It was noted that the hedge bordering West Street has been cut back.

The Next Meeting has been arranged for Monday 4th February 2019

This meeting closed at 8.58pm.